



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Women of Asphalt Announces Six Recipients of 2026 Paving Operations Scholarship

WofA and Caterpillar continue partnership to expand access to hands-on technical training and career development for women in the asphalt industry.

Fleming Island, FL (October 5, 2026) – Women of Asphalt (WofA) is proud to announce the six recipients of its 2026 Paving Operations Scholarship, offered in partnership with Caterpillar. Selected from nearly 80 applicants nationwide, the recipients will receive fully funded scholarships to attend Caterpillar's Paving Operations Training, December 1 - 4, 2026, at the Tinaja Hills Learning & Demonstration Center in Arizona.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- **Katie Caraway**, Pave Her Way (North Carolina)
- **Courtney Hassenzahl**, Fayette County (Georgia)
- **Amber Hale**, King Asphalt (South Carolina)
- **Krystal Mead**, All Things Asphalt (Vermont)
- **Maria Ines Nunez**, Lomeli Paving & Grading (Texas)
- **Brynn Zipp**, Zipp Asphalt (Indiana)

Designed to empower women working in the field, this four-day training combines classroom instruction with hands-on experience operating paving equipment, including running an asphalt paver. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of paving operations, strengthen their technical skills and gain practical experience they can bring back to their crews and companies.

Each scholarship covers the full cost of training and includes up to \$2,000 toward travel and accommodations, helping remove financial barriers to specialized workforce development opportunities.



“Investing in women in the field is an investment in the future of our industry. This program is about more than learning to operate equipment. It’s about building technical knowledge, developing confidence and creating opportunities for women to grow into new roles and leadership positions.”

Rachel Quam

President, Women of Asphalt

Caterpillar Sales Director for Paving Products

Building Skills. Expanding Opportunity.

Now in its third year, the WofA x Caterpillar Paving Operations Scholarship is helping remove barriers to technical education and create new opportunities for women working in the field. Through hands-on training and direct access to industry-leading equipment and instructors, the program helps participants strengthen their skills, grow their careers and bring new knowledge back to their companies and crews.

The scholarship reflects Women of Asphalt and Caterpillar’s shared commitment to developing the asphalt industry’s future workforce by expanding access to technical education, hands-on equipment training and meaningful career development.

About Women of Asphalt

Women of Asphalt (WofA) is a national organization dedicated to advancing and supporting women in the asphalt industry through Awareness, Knowledge and Community. With more than 5,000 members and a growing network of branches across the United States and Canada, WofA connects individuals at every stage of their careers with education, mentorship, leadership development and industry resources.

Membership is free and open to everyone in the asphalt industry. Through the support of its National Partners, WofA works to strengthen career pathways, expand access to professional and technical development, and support the future of the asphalt workforce.